United Nations S/2003/876

Security Council

Distr.: General
11 September 2003

Original: English

Letter dated 10 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as the Representative of the current Chairman of the African Union, I have the honour to transmit herewith the communiqué issued by the Ninety-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution at the Ambassadorial Level, held in Addis Ababa on 29 August 2003, containing decisions on the following:

- The situation in Somalia;
- The situation in Liberia.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Filipe **Chidumo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique
to the United Nations
Representative of the current Chairman of the African Union

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Annex to the letter dated 10 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NINETY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL OF THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION

29 AUGUST 2003, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

The Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution held its 94th ordinary session at Ambassadorial level in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 29 August 2003. The session was chaired by Ambassador Dr. Pascal Ngoga, Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the African Union (AU).

The Central Organ examined the Reports of the Interim Chairperson on the Reconciliation Process in Somalia [Central Organ/MEC/AMB/2.(XCIV)] and the Peace Process in Liberia [Central Organ/MEC/AMB/3.(XCIV)].

At the end of its deliberations, the Central Organ decided as follows:

A. On the Situation in Somalia

The Central Organ:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the outcome of the AU Reconnaissance Mission that visited Somalia from 22 to 31 July 2003 and **COMMENDS** the Mission for the work done under very difficult conditions;

2. **RECALLS** Decision EX/CL/Dec.37 (III) adopted by the Executive Council during its Maputo Session held from 4 to 8 July 2003 in which it appealed to Member States and the international community to support the deployment of an International Force in Somalia to help facilitate the disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration process, as part of the overall efforts to restore peace and security in that country. In this respect, the Central Organ **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to study in detail all aspects of such an International Force, including its size, mandate, modus operandi, funding, as well as modalities through which the support of the international community, including in particular that of the UN Security Council, could be enlisted;

3. In the meantime, **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to pursue his consultations with the Somali Parties and the IGAD Technical Committee, as well as with the AU Partners on the deployment, at the appropriate time, of the AU Military Observer Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)

that will preceed the deployment of the International Force envisaged in Decision EX/CL/Dec.37 (III);

4. **URGES**, once again, the Somali Parties to demonstrate the political will required to swiftly bring the Mbagathi Conference to a successful end. In this respect, the Central Organ **REITERATES** that the responsibility for bringing about lasting peace and reconciliation in Somalia lies first and foremost in the hands of the Somalis themselves;

5. **STRONGLY URGES** the IGAD Technical Committee to demonstrate the required level of cohesion and unity of purpose in order to facilitate the reconciliation process in Somalia. In this regard, the Central Organ **ENCOURAGES** the Chairperson of the Commission to take whatever initiatives he deems appropriate with the Frontline States;

6. **REITERATES** the support of the AU to the work of the UN Panel of Experts mandated to collect independent information on violations of the UN Security Council resolution 733(1992) of 23 January 1992 imposing an arms embargo on Somalia and to provide recommendations on possible practical steps and measures for its implementation. The Central Organ further **INVITES** the Commission to work towards closer collaboration with the Panel and to submit recommendations to it on how best the AU and Member States could contribute to the effective implementation of the arms embargo. In the meantime, the Central Organ **CALLS UPON** all AU member States, in particular the countries of the region, as well as other neigboring countries and members of the international community, to fully comply with the UN Security Council resolutions on the arms embargo in order to enhance the prospect for peace, security and stability in Somalia and in the region as a whole.

B. <u>On the situation in Liberia</u>

The Central Organ:

1. **WELCOMES** the signing in Accra, on 18 August 2003, of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Liberia, the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD), the Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL) and the Political Parties;

2. **APPEALS** to all the Parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement to scrupulously observe their obligations contained therein and, in light of the recent upsurge of fighting in the country, **URGES** the warring factions to observe the Ceasefire Agreement of 17 June 2003;

3. **EXPRESSES** its sincere gratitude to the Current Chairman of ECOWAS, President John Kufuor of Ghana, President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria, and the other Leaders of the region, the Chairperson of the African Union, President Joachim Chissano, the Interim Chairperson of the Commission, Mr. Amara Essy, the ECOWAS Mediator, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Kofi Annan, for their sustained efforts and the critical contributions that they made towards the achievement of a negotiated solution to the conflict in Liberia;

4. **COMMENDS** the Member States of ECOWAS which have so far deployed troops in Liberia in the context of the Multinational Force, which has a critical role to play in securing peace in the country, and **ENCOURAGES** the other countries in the region, as well as the international community at large, to provide troops and support for the said Multinational Force and the International Stabilization Force to be deployed in the future;

5. **FURTHER EXPRESSES** its appreciation for the role played by the international community, including the United Nations, the European Union, the United States and other members of the International Contact Group on Liberia, in support of the efforts of ECOWAS aimed at the achievement of a negotiated solution to the conflict in Liberia, and **CALLS UPON** them to contribute to the efforts to mobilize the requisite resources in support of the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement;

6. **APPRECIATES** the role played by the civil society organizations of Liberia, including the Inter-Religious Council and the Mano River Women Peace Network, both before and during the negotiations, and **ENCOURAGES** them to extend every possible cooperation for the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement;

7. **WELCOMES** the appointment of Ambassador Ramtane Lamamra as Special Envoy for Liberia and **ENCOURAGES** the Chairperson of the Commission to identify concrete measures that the Commission will undertake in respect of the role assigned to it under the Peace Agreement in support of the peace process and the post-conflict reconstruction needs of Liberia;

8. **APPEALS** once again to Member States and the wider international community to render the requisite humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, to alleviate their plight.